

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 12, 14 and 16-24 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration is requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-9, 12, 14 and 16-24 stand rejected under 35 U S C §103 as being unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,351,640 (DeMont) and U.S. Patent No. 6,253,075 (Beghtol). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons explained below.

Independent method claim 6 is directed to initiating a phone call between first and second users. A call initiation request is sent from the first user representing a desire to establish a phone call with a specific second user. The call initiation request includes the primary phone number corresponding to the first user. The primary phone number is not obtained as part of an incoming phone call initiated by the first user. This primary phone number is stored in computer readable memory associated with a communication device of the second user. A request is made of the second user for authorization to initiate the call by which the second user must consent to the call. The primary phone number is dialed above receiving the authorization from the second user.

In the Office Action DeMont was relied upon for supplying the required teachings of claim 6 except for the requirement of storing the primary phone number in memory for which Beghtol was relied upon. Thus, only Beghtol is relied upon for providing teachings regarding storing the phone number in computer memory. It was acknowledged in the Office Action that DeMont did not teach storing the primary phone number to a computer readable memory. Beghtol in combination with DeMont does not teach or render obvious these requirements of claim 6.

Column 5, lines 61-65 of Beghtol was cited for teaching the storing of a primary phone number to a computer readable memory. As explained in the Office Action, incoming caller ID information will be displayed for a finite period of time and will then be deleted. As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill the art, caller ID information (CLID) is transmitted from an

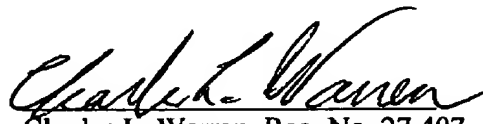
originating switch that supports the calling party as part of initiating a phone call to a called party. In accordance with claim 6, the call initiation request is a communication that is not part of a protocol used to establish a phone call, and hence the primary phone number carried by the call initiation request is not transmitted as part of the process to establish a phone call. The teaching of Beghtol is contrary to this requirement. Thus, Beghtol in combination with DeMont does not render the subject matter of claim 6 obvious.

Independent claims 14 and 22 are not rendered obvious in view of the applied references for similar reasons explained above with regard to claim 6.

Claim 8 (and similar claims 20, 24) further recites the step of storing the primary phone number to a computer readable memory as comprising first obtaining the primary phone number upon receipt of the primary phone number as part of the call initiation request. This is not taught or suggested by Beghtol.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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